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P24176.A05

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Tadashi HAYAMIZU et al.

Group Art Unit: 2854

Appln. No. : 10/654,880

Examiner: Dave A. GHATT

Filed : September 5, 2003

For : IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir :

In response to the Official Action dated February 1, 2005, setting forth a three-month shortened statutory period for response to expire on May 2, 2005 (May 1, 2005 being a Sunday), Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejection and objection in view of the herein contained amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this Response.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this Response.